

NEWTON COUNTY

DRUG COURT

**PARTICIPANT'S
MANUAL**

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Newton County Drug Court Program. The Drug Court Program is under the direction of Judge Timothy Perigo. This handbook is designed to answer questions, address concerns and provide overall information about the Drug Court Program. As a participant, you will be expected to follow the instructions given in Drug Court by the Judge and comply with the treatment plan developed for you by your treatment team. This handbook will detail what is expected of you as a Drug Court participant and review general program information. All participants are encouraged to share this handbook with family and friends.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
Introduction	2
Program Outline	4
Drug Court Supervision	5
Drug Court Program Rules	6
Treatment Procedures	10
Treatment Phases	12
Graduation Requirements	17
Sanctions	18
Drug Court Fee	19
Drug Testing Procedure	20
Your Treatment Team	21
Appendix: Drug Court Forms	
Sample Drug Court Contract	
N/A and A/A Meeting Attendance Verification	

PROGRAM OUTLINE

The Newton County Drug Court Program is a court-supervised, comprehensive treatment program for non-violent defendants. The Drug Court is a voluntary program which includes regular court appearances before the Drug Court Judge. Treatment, which includes drug testing, individual and group counseling, and regular attendance at 12-step meetings (Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics Anonymous), is provided by Lafayette House and Lafayette House case manager. The treatment team may also assist with obtaining education and skills assessments and will provide referrals for vocational training, education and /or job placement services. The program length, determined by each participant's progress, will be no less than nine months. Successful completion and "graduation" from the Drug Court Program will result in having the original charges dismissed.

Judge Timothy Perigo presides over the Newton County Drug Court. He will oversee your progress and have full jurisdiction of the entire process. Final determination of entry into the Program shall only be made by the Judge with input from the Prosecuting Attorney, Defense Counsel, Probation Officer and Treatment Provider.

DRUG COURT SUPERVISION

As a Drug Court participant, you will be required to appear in Drug Court on a regular basis. At each appearance, the Judge will be given a progress report prepared by your treatment team regarding your drug test results, attendance and participation in treatment. The Judge may ask you questions about your progress, and discuss any specific problems you have been experiencing. If you are doing well, you will be encouraged to continue with the Program and work with your treatment team toward graduation. If you are not doing well, the Judge will discuss this with you and the treatment team and determine further action. If you commit program violations, i.e., missed or dirty urine analysis tests, failure to attend individual or group counseling, 12-step meetings, etc., the Court will impose sanctions. (See Sanctions on page 18). With repeated violation of program expectations, and a failure to progress satisfactorily, the Court may impose the ultimate sanction of discharge from the program.

Failure to appear in Court on the date and time you are scheduled could result in a warrant being issued for your arrest and you being placed in custody.

Warrants and/or new arrests could result in your being terminated from the Drug Court Program. Other violations which could result in termination include missing drug tests, demonstrating a lack of Program response by failing to cooperate with treatment, and violence or threats of violence directed at the treatment team or other clients. All decisions regarding termination from the Program will be made by the Drug Court Judge.

PROGRAM RULES

As a Drug Court participant, you will be required to abide by the following rules:

1. *Do not use or possess any alcohol or other drugs.*

Sobriety is the primary focus of this program. Maintaining a drug free lifestyle (no alcohol or other drugs) is very important in your recovery process.

2. *Attend all ordered treatment sessions.*

This includes individual and group counseling, educational sessions and 12-step meetings. If you are unable to attend a scheduled session, you must contact your treatment counselor before a session is missed.

3. *Report to your Probation Officer as directed.*

If you have any problems making an appointment, contact your probation officer immediately. Some meetings with the Probation Officer will be conducted in your home.

4. *Be on time.*

You are expected to be on time to court and to treatment. If you are late to court, the Judge may assess a sanction for not being on time. If you are late to treatment, you may not be allowed to attend your counseling session and will be considered non-compliant. Contact your treatment counselor if there is a possibility that you may be late.

5. *Do not make threats toward other participants or staff or behave in a violent manner.*

Violent or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Court. This may result in termination from the Drug Court Program.

6. *Act and Dress appropriately for Court and treatment sessions.*

Act appropriately when in the courtroom. You are expected to respect the Courtroom, Judge and all Drug Court personnel. As a participant, you will be expected to wear a shirt or blouse, pants, dress, skirt or shorts of reasonable length. Clothing bearing drug or alcohol related themes or promoting or advertising drug or alcohol or drug use is considered inappropriate. Sunglasses are not to be worn inside the Court or treatment center unless medically approved. Speak with your treatment team if you need assistance with clothing. No eating or chewing gum in the courtroom.

7. *Always tell the truth.*

Overcoming alcohol and other drug dependence is not easy, yet thousands of individuals do it every year. The Newton County Drug Court was established to combine a public health approach (treatment) with a criminal justice approach to give you the best opportunity to get well. However, this will take your best effort and truthfulness on your part. Defendants who are not truthful with the Drug Court Judge, Probation Officer and treatment staff will be dealt with appropriately.

8. *Obey all traffic laws and pay all outstanding traffic fines.*

Do not drive a vehicle if you do not possess a valid driver's license. Defendants who drive without a valid license will be subject to Drug Court sanctions and arrest.

9. *Give up your right to a preliminary hearing.*

10. *Give up your right to a speedy trial during the time you are in the program.*

11. *Attend all court sessions as ordered.*

12. *Maintain your residence in Newton County throughout the length of the Program.*

13. *Follow the treatment plan as directed by the Program personnel.*

14. *Not violate the law, and if you engage in any criminal act, you can expect to be terminated from the Program and be prosecuted for the pending charges.*
15. *Tell your Probation Officer within 48 hours if you move or change your telephone number or disconnect your telephone.*
16. *Tell your Probation Officer within 48 hours if you change employment.*
17. *Get permission from your Probation Officer before you leave Newton/Jasper County.*
18. *Submit urine samples for testing upon request.*
19. *Understand that the program is at least twelve months and that I must pay a fee of at least \$5.00 at every court appearance for a total up to \$200. Understand that the time and cost could be reduced based upon my progress and successful participation.*
20. *Complete 40 hours of Community Service.*
21. *If restitution is owed, you must pay this amount in full as ordered by the Court.*
22. *Stipulate to the admission of a chemist report in lieu of live testimony at any court proceeding.*

TREATMENT PROCEDURES

Your treatment will be provided by the Lafayette House Staff. The treatment team will assess what level and intensity of treatment will best meet your needs and recommend to the Drug Court Judge that you receive either detoxification, outpatient or residential treatment. If you are admitted to a residential treatment program, your treatment plan will include the requirement of that program. If you are not admitted into a residential treatment program, an intensive, outpatient program has developed which includes:

TREATMENT PLANS

An "initial" treatment plan will be developed by your treatment team following an overall assessment of your problems and needs. The plan will act as a guide for your initial treatment phase. The plan will be maintained by your treatment and will be updated as you progress through the Program.

DRUG TESTING

You will be tested through the entire treatment process. During Phase 1, you will be tested a minimum of one time per week and as you progress through the phases of the Program, testing will be required on a random, less frequent basis. (see Drug Testing Procedure, on page 20).

COUNSELING

Substance abuse counseling comprises two separate formats: individual and group. As part of your treatment plan, you must participate in both types of counseling. Together they are designed to develop self-awareness, realize self-worth, and develop the strength to practice self-discipline. The individual and group counseling sessions will include problem identification and alternative solutions. Your attendance at counseling sessions will be reported to the Judge as part of your progress report. You must have prior permission from your treatment counselor to be excused from a counseling session.

TWELVE-STEP MEETINGS

Attendance will be required at 12-step meetings such as Narcotics and/or Alcoholics Anonymous at least two times each week. Attendance at N/A and A/A meetings is an important part of your recovery process to help familiarize you with the 12-step philosophy, and help you develop levels of trust to learn and create social bonds with other people in recovery. Your treatment team will provide you with information regarding the time and location of 12-step meetings. You must provide proof of attendance to your Probation Officer prior to each court appearance.

SPONSOR

You must obtain a self-help sponsor. A sponsor is a 12-step group member with significant sobriety (at least one year) who assists you on a personal level with sobriety, personal problems, working the steps, etc. Ask at meetings for a temporary sponsor.

TREATMENT PHASES

PHASE 1

In phase 1, you will be assigned to a Probation Officer and a treatment counselor. They will comprise your treatment team and will provide you with an orientation/overview of the Drug Court Program. Your problems and needs will be assessed and a treatment plan will be developed. Phase 1 requirements include:

1. Contact your Probation Officer once per week.
2. Attend a 12-step program (N/A and A/A) a minimum of two times per week and provide written verification of attendance.
3. Obtain a self-help temporary sponsor.
4. Submit to urinalysis testing (See Drug Testing Procedure on page 20)
5. Attend Treatment group and individual counseling sessions as directed by your treatment team.
6. Pay \$5.00 per court appearance as part of your fee of a total of \$200.00.

REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION OF PHASE 1

1. Participation in Phase 1 until Phase 1 goals are met.
2. Attend individual sessions.
3. Drug testing of one urinalysis per week minimum.
4. Participation in 12-step program two times each week.
5. Complete job readiness training counseling, if appropriate.
6. Drug Court, Judge, Probation Officer, counselor and client agree that client has begun acceptance of personal responsibility for recovery and the need for help in that process.

PHASE 2

In Phase 2, your treatment plan will be updated by you and your counselor to identify your treatment goals and objectives. Counseling and meetings will focus on your problem areas and help you to identify ways of coping with stressful situations. Phase 2 requirements include:

1. Weekly drug education group session.
2. Weekly therapy group session.
3. Weekly individual counseling session.
4. Drug testing.
5. Participate in a 12-step program two times each week.
6. At least 1 time every month court appearances and payment toward \$200.00 Drug Court fee.
7. Obtain and maintain a permanent sponsor and verify weekly contact.
8. Obtain or maintain employment, training or enter an academic program.

REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION OF PHASE 2

1. Regular attendance at treatment services (group sessions, urinalysis testing, individual sessions).
2. Obtain or maintained employment, training or academic program.
3. Participation in weekly 12-step meetings with verification.
4. Obtained and maintained a permanent 12-step sponsor.
5. Obtained sobriety and established a stable, drug-free lifestyle.
6. Submit, to the Drug Court Judge, a written relapse prevention plan, prepared by you and your treatment counselor.
7. Regular payment of Drug Court Fees.
8. Drug Court Judge, client, counselor and Probation Officer agree that client has sufficient information and proper attitude to support recovery.

PHASE 3

Phase 3 will address your ongoing recovery needs including maintaining total abstinence from all drugs through relapse prevention. The focus will be on daily living skills. This phase is designed to support you in your return to the community as a productive and responsible member. Phase 3 requirements include:

1. Monthly contact with our Probation Officer.
2. Attend weekly therapeutic/aftercare group sessions.
3. Attend at least 2 self-help groups per week and verify attendance.
4. Drug testing.
5. Monthly court appearance and payment toward your Drug Court fee.
6. Become employed or maintain employment or begin/continue a training or formal academic program.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

1. Complete a required number of Community Service hours.
2. Have developed a viable Relapse Prevention Plan as assessed by the treatment team.
3. Payment in full of assigned costs of the court.
4. Demonstrate a high level of understanding of the 12-step support and recovery program.
 - A. Have a permanent sponsor
 - B. Be able to apply the steps to personal life
 - C. Demonstrating personal growth using the 12-steps, or other viable tools of recovery
5. Maintain verifiable employment, job training or education program.

SANCTIONS

If you fail to comply with the Treatment Program, the Drug Court Judge may, at his discretion, order one or more of the following:

1. Additional Community Service
2. A period of incarceration in Newton County Jail
3. Extra individual sessions in counseling
4. Extra group sessions
5. Extra AA/NA meetings
6. Residential treatment
7. 48 hour intensive program (Weekend Relapse Intervention Program)
8. Other treatment directives
9. Termination from the Program

DRUG COURT FEE

As a Drug Court participant, you will be required to pay the Drug Court Fee of \$200.00. Payments will be made directly to the Circuit Clerk of Newton County (on the second floor of the courthouse).

You may pay as little as \$5.00 on each court appearance. The cashier will give you a receipt to show to the Drug Court Judge each time you make payments on your Drug Court fee. You must report for each scheduled court appearance, even if you are unable to make a payment.

DRUG TESTING PROCEDURE

You will be tested throughout the entire treatment process. You may be asked to submit urine samples to your Probation Officer or Treatment Staff or both. All urine samples will be observed by a member of the Drug Court. All drug test results will be recorded in the Drug Court file.

YOUR TREATMENT TEAM

Your Probation Officer is: _____

You can contact him/her at: _____

Your Treatment Counselor is: _____

Your Treatment Case Manager is: _____

You can contact him/her at: _____

Emergency Contact number if you need to contact someone after
scheduled work hours is: _____

If leaving the County or State call: 1-800-869-3195

You will report for treatment sessions at: _____
